

tug-o-war. It was a close competition, but the Army pulled out the final victory. We'll get 'em next time.

The exercise culminated in a boisterous combat dining-in that built joint esprit de corps. Originally designed to be outside with water grenades and fire hoses, it was moved inside due to the 34-degree temperature, pouring rain and high winds.

"If you asked me what the worst weather imaginable for a dining-in would be, I'd say you're looking at it," said 1Lt Hans Anker, dining-in coordinator and Mr. Vice.

With some last minute planning, the combat dining-in was salvaged and moved into the Community Activities Center, complete with Grog bowls, an obstacle course and even a live rock band. By the end of the night, soldiers and airmen were indistinguishable from one another as they crowded around the pool and ping-pong tables.

"It's great to see everyone coming together with the people they trained with during the week," said Lt Anker. "The interservice barrier has completely come down here."

The next morning the flag was lowered and Maj Davison and Chief Brejcha presented each soldier and airman with a Prime BEEF patch and hearty thanks for a job well done. "I think both sides got a lot out of the week," said Chief Brejcha. "I think this is the start of some 'good stuff'."

*1Lt James M. Eschrich is chief, contract management, 97th Civil Engineer Squadron, Altus, AFB, OK.*



**CMSgt Mark Brejcha goes nose to nose with U.S. Army SSG Smith during the Sports Day push-up competition.**

## ***AFIT Provides Advanced Degree Opportunities to NCOs***

The Air Force Institute of Technology is once again offering eight noncommissioned officers the opportunity to pursue an advanced science, engineering or management degree in-residence at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, OH.

The goal of the Enlisted-to-AFIT Program is to provide commanders with a diverse and renewable source of highly proficient and educated career NCOs, said CMSgt Robert Hale, chief of Air Force enlisted professional military education at the Pentagon.

The program recognizes the important contributions that enlisted professional development has on enhancing the future total force, according to Lt Gen Richard E. "Tex" Brown III, deputy chief of staff for personnel at the Pentagon.

"In conjunction with other professional training and education programs, this advanced degree opportunity will further develop our NCOs' highly technical education and skills, leading to greater innovation and improved readiness," Brown said.

NCOs interested in applying for the 18-month program must be at least a technical sergeant with a minimum of eight years time in

service and 12 months time on station, and have three years retainability upon AFIT graduation. They must have completed the appropriate skill-level upgrade and resident professional military education schooling for their rank.

In addition, Hale said, since this program is designed to provide advanced education, applicants must possess a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university.

Besides academic transcripts, applicants also have to provide test scores from either the Graduate Record Examination or Graduate Management Admission Test, depending upon the specific AFIT degree program requirements.

Although not everyone can participate in this program, Hale strongly encourages enlisted members not to give up on pursuing advanced education.

"There are many opportunities available for enlisted members to continue their education, and they should take advantage of them all," he said. "By becoming experts in our career fields, our contributions become more significant, and it

enhances the professionalism of the enlisted corps as well."

Prospective students should contact Hale at robert.hale@pentagon.af.mil for additional information on Enlisted-to-AFIT program policies, procedures, guidelines and application process information. (SSgt A.J. Bosker, Air Force Print News)

### **A-Gram List**

- 03-01—The MCU-2/P Protective Mask Returns to the USAF Inventory
- 03-02—Defense Logistics Agency Maintenance, Repair, and Operations (MRO) Services Program
- 03-03—Updated Computer-based Airfield Criteria Course
- 03-04—Bare Base Equipment Training
- 03-05—New Prime BEEF Orientation Video
- 03-06—Computer-Based Prime BEEF Home Station Training, Volume 2
- 03-07—Computer-Based Prime BEEF Home Station Training, Volume 3
- 03-08—Computer-Based Prime BEEF Home Station Training, Volume 4
- 03-09—Three-Level General Contingency Responsibilities Course
- 03-10—Liquid Propane Aircraft Fire Training Facility Multimedia Training Course

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